ject perspective/specifications be- i come inescapable having inherent i effect on project cost escalation. Nevertheless, the project and financial commitments are closely monitored by the Steering Committee and are frequent interaction between representatives of Services and the HAL,

Escalation in the cost of AJT

2379. SHRI PREM CHA^TD GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the AJT whose cost was Rs. 10.12 crores in 1980 now costs about Rs. 75 crores a piece; and

(b) if so, the justiiication for the delay in sanctioning the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) and (b) The final cost of the aircraft is not yet known as commercial negotiations with the two shortlisted vendors have not been completed. The requirement of AJT for lAF has been structured in the 9th Plan.

Vktimisation and atrocities against women

2380. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names, addresses along-. with complete details of women or ganisations which are in the fore front to fight victimisation and atro cities against women;

(b) whether such atrocities have registered a marked increase over the last two years, especially in metropolitan areas, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the effective step taken by Government to ensure that atrocities and victimisation against women is curbed, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQ-BOOL DAR): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Available information on the incidents of crime against women during 1995 and 1996 along with the data in respect of four metro politan cities is given in the statement (See below) .

(c) The registration, investigation detection and preventipn of crime against women is the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Adm inistrations. However, the Govern ment of India has initiated a number of measures to check such crime. Apart from bringing out a number of legislations and carrying out legisla tive changes in the relevant Act, in structions/guidelines have been iss ued from time to time to the State Govemments/UT Administrations to effectively enforce legislation relat ing to crime against women. Besides, the media is being used to project women in positive terms. A legal lit eracy manual has also been brought out with the aim of educating women about laws concerning their basic rights. .